



# Milwaukee County Office of the Sheriff

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## NEWS RELEASE

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David A. Clarke Jr.  
Sheriff

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Friday, October 22, 2010

### Crash on Freeway Leads to Assault of a 64-Year Old Man

Milwaukee, WI - Today, the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office charged 25-year-old Justin Brown of Muskego and 31-year-old Jeffrey Kotke of Waterford with **Misdemeanor Battery**. The charges stemmed from an assault that occurred on the Milwaukee County freeway system on Wednesday.

At 5PM on Wednesday, October 20, the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office Communications Center received a 911 call stating that a fight was in progress on EAST I-894 just south of Beloit Road.

An investigation revealed that a 64-year-old male driver from Illinois was stopped on the highway due to traffic congestion, when a Chevy Malibu struck the rear of his vehicle (Kia SUV.) Both vehicles pulled over to the left distress lane and the drivers exchanged information. During this exchange, the driver of the Malibu, Jeffrey Kotke, attempted to negotiate a settlement to avoid contacting their insurance companies. The Illinois driver refused his offer and Kotke became upset. Kotke attempted to grab the piece of paper with his information on it and began pushing the Illinois driver against the SUV.

During the scuffle the passenger in the striking vehicle, Justin Brown, *who was recently released from the jail that same day*, went over to the Illinois man and placed him in a headlock and started choking him. Several good Samaritans witnessed the assault and stopped to render aid to the Illinois driver. The victim suffered minor injuries and refused medical treatment.

Jeffrey Kotke is currently out of jail on a \$500 cash bail.

Justin Brown is currently at the Milwaukee County Jail on a probation hold.

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